



## College Struggles to Attract Minorities

By **MARY TURNER**  
Staff Writer

Numbers this year were once again low for minority enrollments at the University of Mary Washington.

While there has been a slow rise over the last five years, no single minority group has had an enrollment this year of more than 45 incoming freshmen, according to school records.

Total minority enrollment at UMW this year is 16 percent of the incoming freshman class, up one percentage point from 2007.

According to data provided by the Office of Planning, Assessment, and Institutional Research, however, minority applications, acceptances, and enrollment figures were significantly lower than that of Caucasian students. African Americans had the lowest acceptance percentage, with 57 percent of applicants being accepted, and just over 25 percent of those accepted actually enrolling in the fall. In 2003, only 35 percent of African-Americans who applied to the University were accepted.

One group that did manage to have a higher acceptance rate over Caucasian applicants was Native Americans. Over 80 percent of Native Americans who applied to UMW were accepted, while 72 percent of Caucasians who applied were accepted. However, only five out of the 19 Native Americans who were accepted actually enrolled.

According to African American students at the local Germanna Community College in Fredericksburg, there are several key issues that deter them from transferring to the University of Mary Washington.

Fewer than ten classes are offered annually at the University which focus on history and culture of minorities, in comparison with other Virginia schools such as Norfolk State University, a historically African American. Norfolk State requires over ten of its general education credits alone to be dedicated to courses that focus on African American history. Minority students who are looking for a curriculum that includes their own cultural history may shy away from UMW. After hearing how few classes UMW has to offer students of

See DIVERSITY, page 9

## UMW Student Assaulted

By **HEATHER BRADY & ANDREA NEALON**  
Assistant News Editor & Staff Writer

An anonymous donor independent of the University of Mary Washington is offering a \$10,000 reward to anyone with information leading to the successful arrest and conviction of a man who sexually assaulted a Mary Washington student early Friday morning on the third floor of the parking garage.

The assailant, described as a white male between 20-24 years old and 5 feet 5 inches tall, is reported to have light green eyes and light-colored hair in a 'buzz' style, according to University Police.

He also has a "tribal" tattoo on his upper left arm, and a soft, high-pitched voice. He was wearing a green t-shirt and blue jeans at the time of the assault. Police believe he attended an on-campus event earlier in the day.

The assailant sexually assaulted a UMW female sophomore resident at approximately 2 a.m. on Friday, Oct. 3, after approaching her on the south end of the third level of the UMW parking deck.

University officials said the incident on Friday is not related to an assault back in the summer on the path around the track at the Battlegrounds off Hanover Street. The \$10,000 dol-



Emily McAlpine, Bulletin

The assault occurred on the third floor of the UMW parking deck early Friday morning.

lar reward for the recent incident and a smaller award for the Battlegrounds assault are from separate donors, according to the school officials.

According to Teresa Mannix, director of news and public information at UMW, the student left campus shortly after the attack and drove into Stafford County, an area where she said she felt "very comfortable." She reported the incident to the Stafford sheriff's office.

"She was taken to the hospital and her case was referred to the Fredericksburg Police Department, since the crime happened here," Mannix said. "The Fredericksburg Police Department then notified UMW. Immediately after learning about the crime, the UMW Police Department and the Fredericksburg Police Department worked together to gather evidence."

Mannix said that the student was taken to the Mary Washington Hospi-

tal on Friday morning, and was released later the same day. The state of her condition was not released.

"Immediately after the incident was reported to UMW, patrols around campus were increased by UMW, Fredericksburg, and State Police," said Mannix. "Also, a security guard has been hired to patrol the parking deck every day from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m."

See ASSAULT, page 2

## Roach Found in Nest Sandwich

By **ERIC STEIGLEDER**  
Staff Writer

On Sep. 29, UMW sophomore Luan Cao took a bite out of his sandwich. As he looked down at his food, Cao realized that would be the last bite he would take.

"I took a bite," Cao said, "and a cockroach crawled out of the lettuce." Cao had gone through the sandwich station in the Eagle's Nest minutes prior, and had headed back to his dorm room in Alvey to enjoy his lunch. Like most students, he watched as his sandwich was prepared, yet did not notice anything out of the ordinary.

"I watched the entire thing," he said. "I didn't see any cockroach."

After seeing the insect, Cao promptly spat out the food, wrapped everything in a brown bag, and took it back to the Nest, where he explained what had happened.

"I took it back to the Nest," he said. "And they let me get whatever." Deciding against the sandwich line this time around, Cao opted instead for two pieces of free pizza.

While such an occurrence may easily frighten and repulse those who frequent the Nest, Cao was understanding about the situation.

"What happened to me was one in a million chance," he said. "The only thing that concerns me is that they didn't close the station after it happened."

John Dering, general manager of dining services on campus, was initially unaware of the incident prior to the request for an interview. However since then, Dering has been in contact with the distributor that provides food to the college.

"The Nest does not have cockroaches," Dering said. "This was just an isolated incident."

There have been no other public reports of cockroaches found in food either before or after. The problem, according to Dering, was a mistake on the part of the distributor.

"We receive our lettuce in cryosealed packaging," Dering said. "If anything got inside, it happened before it arrived here."

Students, however, may prove more fickle.

Amanda Pullen, a junior, was visibly taken aback by the news.

"That's disgusting," she said. "I moved off campus to get out of the meal plan for a reason."

Sophomore Ryan Forbes, a frequent user of the Nest, had a different take on the matter.

"It's kind of foul," he admitted, "but worse things have happened."

On the Rappahannock Health District's website, high on the list of possible "suspension of permit to operate for imminent health hazard," violations was a pest infestation violation.

However, a single cockroach in a sandwich does not a pest infestation make.

Lisa Hill, environmental health supervisor for the Rappahannock area, said EHS inspectors would typically recommend restaurants where pests were found contact professional pests removers.

As for Cao, even though the odds are strongly in his favor, he has not eaten a sandwich at the Nest since.



from howstuffworks.com

## Res Life Restricts Furniture

By **JOHN WIGGINTON**  
Staff Writer

Elizabeth Emmel, a senior resident of Randolph Hall, has been sleeping on a mattress on the floor ever since resident assistants told her that her self-constructed loft had to go.

Customized lofts are not the only thing forbidden at Mary Washington; they also prohibit cut trees, lava lamps, and indoor grills.

"It really sucks sleeping on the floor," said Emmel.

Students have often been critical of the dorm life at Mary Washington, which according to students can be oppressive, and one reason many students decide to live off-campus.

"I'm not blaming the RAs, but the student handbook is too vague," Emmel said. The handbook states that students who want a loft may purchase a pre-fabricated kit as long as the loft complies with "Loft Guideline" requirements. However, like most students, Emmel wanted to save some

money, and decided to not buy a \$200 prefabricated loft, which a vendor sells on-campus at the start of every school year.

"The only difference was the price I paid and that I cut the wood myself," Emmel said, who calculated that she probably spent \$130 on her self-made loft, which she said was stable, free-standing, and followed all fire code rules.

Students complain about other UMW dorm rules as well.

Diana Gallup, a senior living off-campus, is still annoyed about an incident that occurred when she was a freshman. She and six friends were in her dorm room watching a movie—which was apparently one person over the limit.

"Our RA stood outside our room until one of my friends got up and left," she said.

Mary Washington has many of the same rules as other Virginia schools, such as James Madison University and the University of Virginia: no burning

incense, no smoking, and no pets, except fish.

But school officials say Mary Washington has established additional rules for students in the dorms.

"What other schools do does not factor into the final decision of what rules are put into effect here at UMW, and which ones are not," said Residence Life Director Christine Porter.

Both JMU and UVA allow students to build their own lofts, for example, but Mary Washington officials don't like the idea, and say there are legal concerns behind the ban.

"Students [at Mary Washington] are not allowed to build their own lofts because it puts the liability directly on the university and not the manufacturer," Porter said.

Porter added that school officials will consider special cases, and have allowed some students in the past to keep their self-made lofts. However, students should not get their hopes up. Porter said in most cases the school continues to invoke the rule forbidding

them in the student handbook.

"It would be too hard to inspect every loft on campus," she said.

Among other differences between UMW and other schools: UVA lets dorm students have popcorn poppers; JMU lets them use hot pots.

Mary Washington, though, doesn't allow any cooking at all in dorm rooms.

Former R.A. Lura Moomau said she is frustrated by the policy.

"When there's no kitchen of any sort, like in Russell Hall, it's really inconvenient not being allowed to have hot plates," she said.

An article in the *Bullet* last year reported that the number of alcohol violations at UMW was almost identical to Virginia Tech, a school of nearly 30,000 students.

Mary Washington also stands alone with its recently publicized rule outlawing not only beer pong tables, but "water pong" tables as well. The *Bullet*

See DORMS, page 9

## Weekend Weather

From Weather.com

### Friday

Sunny

High: 81  
Low: 53

### Saturday

Sunny

High: 76  
Low: 51

### Sunday

Partly Cloudy

High: 75  
Low: 51

## Weekly Events

### Fall Break

Saturday-Tuesday,  
Oct. 11-14

Be Safe and Have  
Fun!

### Stock Up On Canned Goods

"Cans Across America"  
Canned Food Drive, Nov. 12-13

Stock Up Over Fall  
Break! Winning  
Dorm or Student  
Club Gets Prize!



### Cheap Seats

Next Friday- Sunday  
7 p.m. and 10 p.m.  
The Dark Knight and  
Mamma Mia  
Dodd Auditorium  
Brought to you by  
UMW Cheap Seats

### UMW Eagle Pipe Band Competes

Saturday, Oct. 11 at  
the Anne Arundel  
Scottish Festival

Anne Arundel  
Fairgrounds, 1450  
Generals Highway,  
Route 178,  
Crownsville, Md.

Events courtesy of OSACS.  
If you would like your  
event listed, contact The  
Bulletin at  
newsxcrew@gmail.com.  
Send a flyer image if possible

Want to get  
involved? Come to a  
staff meeting on  
Sunday at 8 p.m. in  
the Bulletin office, located in the lower-level of Seacobeck, or contact newsxcrew@gmail.com

## Outside the Fence



By HEATHER BRADY  
Assistant News Editor

### National

Top Congressional budget analysts said on Oct. 7 that about \$2 trillion of Americans' retirement savings have been wiped out in the past 15 months due to the stock market's prolonged tumble. This blow could force workers to stay on the job longer than planned, rein in spending, and possibly further stall an economy reliant on consumer dollars. Pensions and 401(k) plans are the only form of savings for many Americans. The approximately 20 percent decline of these assets is another setback, as many people continue to grapple with higher gas and food prices, more credit card debt, declining home loans, and less access to loans in general.

## No Garage for President



Emily McAlpine/Bulletin

Above: Brompton Mansion. Officials have decided not to add a quarter million dollar garage to the residence

By STEPHANIE ROCHE  
Staff Writer

University of Mary Washington officials have backed away from plans to build a two-car garage at Brompton, due to an estimated cost of \$250,000.

Vice President for Administration, Finance and Legislative Affairs Rick Hurley said concerns about UMW President Judy Hample's safety provided the motivation for the project.

"A garage would provide added security for the President to drive into a facility and have a door close behind her without getting out of the car," he said.

Hurley said lack of funding was the deciding factor in canceling the project.

"Dr. Hample was flabbergasted to learn that the cost would be approximately \$250,000 for a two-car garage," Hurley said.

As a result the plans to build a garage at Brompton have been put on hold.

Hample declined to comment. However, Associate Historic Preservation Professor Gary Stanton remains concerned about the project, which he said, if resurrected, could harm the historic integrity of Brompton, a famed Civil War site.

The Brompton house is at the military crest of the Fredericksburg battlefield, or the highest point people below can actually see. Stanton said the front of the house looks same today as it did in 1865.

Stanton said there is a important picture of Brompton from the Civil War taken from the side of the house that faces the town of Fredericksburg, from Hanover Street and shows amputees out on the lawn. Brompton was used as a field hospital at times during the war. Because of this picture, the Fredericksburg side of the house is always displayed when photographed.

"They did not cancel the garage because of historical concerns but rather because they could not afford it," Stanton said. "So if enough money is

raised, are we going to return to this issue? If so we need to consider the alternatives."

Stanton suggested that the garage, if built at some point in the future, could be constructed at the back of the property, facing away from town and towards the UMW Battleground Athletic Complex. If that were the case, the driveway could be accessed from the Tennis Center parking lot. The hidden driveway would make it hard for people to monitor the coming and going of the president.

"The land allows new construction, without it being entirely evident. We would then be able to keep today's picture the same as 1865, and end the conflict while allowing changes for the occupant's needs," Stanton said.

According to Wiltenmuth, the university did account for historical concerns during the research process into the proposed garage.

"UMW consulted with the National Park Service, our own Department of Historic Preservation, and the state's Department of Historic Resources," Wiltenmuth said.

All those organizations contributed to the process of understanding the requirements of potentially adding a garage to a designated National Landmark structure.

Stanton, however, said he only heard about the proposed garage by way of a casual conversation.

"Fredericksburg is the place where Confederate and Union armies came together early on during the Civil War. It is a site where many lives were lost in massive killings," Stanton said.

That's why Stanton said he compiled all the Civil War images he could find and presented them to President Hample and Facilities Services earlier this year.

"I wanted them to understand why the garage would need to be put in the back of the house," he said. "Ultimately, Brompton is an important landmark in history as well as for UMW, and we need to respect both institutions."

### Regional

Stafford County sheriffs arrested three male suspects, ages 17, 20, and 22, on Monday for a slew of theft-related incidents. The three were sighted near a 7-Eleven near Olde Forge subdivision by the victim of the first car they broke into that morning. They also broke into the victim's wife's car, and the car of another resident in the subdivision, stealing several dollar bills, some credit cards, and damaging the first victim's stereo. First Sgt. Ray Davis was in the area of the 7-Eleven when he confronted the suspects. The youngest said that their car had been towed, and that they were calling to try to get it back. Their 'getaway' car was parked illegally in England Run, and had in fact been towed. The suspects were carrying a car stereo, GPS units, other electronics, and guns in their bags upon the time of arrest. (The Free Lance-Star, Oct. 8; www.fredericksburg.com)

### Global

On Oct. 7, U.S. District Judge Ricardo M. Urbina ordered 17 Uighurs, or Chinese Muslims, being held at the Guantanamo Bay military prison in Cuba to be released into the United States, rejecting the Bush administration's assertion that it could detain them indefinitely without cause. The judge claims that the government provided no proof that the prisoners were enemy combatants or security risks. This marks the first time a U.S. judge has ordered the release of a Guantanamo Bay detainee. It is also the first time a foreign national held at the facility in Cuba has been ordered to be transferred to the U.S. (The Washington Post, Oct. 8; www.washingtonpost.com)

## \$10K Offered for Assault Info

◀ ASSAULT, page 1  
indefinitely."

The security guard has been contracted with Securitas, a company independent of the UMW Police Department. Mannix also commented that the office of Public Safety and Community Services is looking into the "best practices" overall for securing parking decks.

"The administration is committed to doing everything it can to ensure that students and campus visitors are safe when using the deck," said Mannix.

When construction for the parking deck began in 2006, original plans called for the installation of security cameras. However, the office of the Virginia attorney general advised against them. A representative for the attorney general questioned the legality of filming UMW students and visitors, and the University decided against cameras.

"The issue is threefold," said Rick Hurley, executive vice president for administration and finance. "Cameras can not capture every nook and cranny in a parking deck. It is also believed that their presence gives a false sense of security to users of the deck. And, to really be effective as a safety measure, staff would have to be hired to watch the monitors on a 24/7 basis."

He also cited the high cost as one of the factors involved in the decision not to install the security cameras.

"We had to take all perspectives into consideration," he said.

Mannix confirmed that the University is now reviewing other sources for security cameras. By investigating how other buildings with security cameras approach logistical and legal issues, the University hopes to determine a plan for campus surveillance.

The security feature praised as the most effective in the aftermath of the attack is the UMW Emergency Alert System. This system utilizes texts and e-mail to alert students to any kind of emergency on campus, including assaults, weather warnings, and other potentially dangerous situations that could develop on campus.

"UMW students and employees were sent an e-mail about the incident just before 4:30 a.m. on Friday morning, and a second e-mail with more information was sent at 5:13 a.m., followed by a text alert at 5:26 a.m.," Mannix said.

"The delay in the notification can be attributed to the fact that the UMW Police Department was not notified of the crime until 3:30



Courtesy UMW Police Department

The assailant, described as a white male between 20-24 years old and 5 feet 5 inches tall, is reported to have light green eyes and light-colored hair in a 'buzz' style, according to University Police.

a.m.," said Mannix. "It took time to gather all of the information from the other two police jurisdictions, the Stafford and Fredericksburg departments, in order to send the information to the UMW community."

The UMW 2008 Annual Security Report shows a drop in the number of forcible sex crimes in dormitories and residential areas over the past three years, from 2005 to 2007.

The report shows that since 2005, the number of forcible sex crimes occurring in non-residential areas of campus, such as academic buildings and parking lots, has remained at a consistent rate of one per year.

"Incidents such as [these] are unpredictable," Hurley said. "The best we can do is to continue to stress the importance of everyone taking responsibility for their safety, meaning [you should] know your surroundings or call for an escort service. We patrol areas of the community that surround our campus and the city police patrol all others."

The Friday morning assault is the only attack that has occurred in the parking deck since it opened in 2007, according to university officials.

Susan Knick, the assistant vice president for public safety and community services, and James Snipes, UMW chief of police, were both unavailable for comment. Police Dispatcher Christopher D. Cash declined comment on the ongoing investigation, saying that the police department was instructed not to release any more information other than what was sent out to students and faculty in official e-mails.

### Correction:

In "Pro-Choicers Start Club," (Oct. 2) Lauren Bull was incorrectly identified as Director of Organizing and Advocacy for Planned Parenthood. Bull's correct title is Associate Director for Advocacy

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# Viewpoints

## Long Distance Love: Hang Up or Hold On?

I lived abroad in Paris before coming to Buenos Aires. After staying here for a while, I must say that Buenos Aires is a close second to being a city of love. Everywhere you turn there are couples smooching, romantic music playing, and guys cat-calling girls.

In Paris I had three friends, each of whom had boyfriends. By month three they had each dumped their American significant other, believing it was the right thing to do before making out with some Frenchman.

Here in Buenos Aires, where I am studying abroad I have three other friends who have boyfriends. Two of them have remained faithful by only dancing with guys at clubs and deflecting any wooing attempts made by horny young Argentinians. However my one friend, Maesa, was given permission by her boyfriend to spread her horny wings, if she wished to do so. She and her boyfriend had entered the "open relationship" zone.

Earlier today Maesa came to me with a guilty look on her face. "KJ, I am so glad you're here," she blurted out. "I feel so horrible."

Since being here in Buenos Aires, Maesa has made out with two guys in two different clubs. Last night, however, it got a little heavier. She went to what I would call second and a half base with some musician before breaking out and backing down from any further heavy petting.

"I just feel really guilty," she told me over a cup of coffee. "I was so unsure the whole time with that guy, and I didn't mean to lead him on! I think that was a preview of what's going to happen with any guy I meet here. I love my boyfriend. We fit and I don't think I feel comfortable doing more with other guys."

Maesa has been in her relationship for two years. Although she was initially excited about being able to branch out, immediately after kissing the first guy she felt guilty. Not only did the prospect of hurting

her beloved beau gnaw at her, but the very thought that he could be doing the same thing with another girl kept her in check.

Yet at the same time, she told me she didn't want to be outdone. If her boyfriend had slept with someone else during their break and she did not, where would that leave her? She wanted to take an equal amount of advantage of the break as him.

Apart from Maesa, my other two friends have complained to me multiple times about how horny they have gotten since arriving in Buenos Aires. In a city where sexuality is freely expressed, I can understand their plight.

"Long distance relationships are stupid," my roommate Joe once told me. "There's no point to them. You have an idea of someone you really like who is out there. But an important part of a relationship is physically being with that person and if you can't be with them then what's the point?"

So what stand does mamma KJ take on the whole issue? I say if you can hack a relationship overseas then more power to you. Long distance relationships

are probably one of the most difficult tests of will and commitment one can endure, especially for a long duration of time. You know there's someone out there waiting for you, someone you share a deep connection with when you are together. But I feel that distance takes away a lot of the spark, especially for sapling couples.

Personally I can't stand them. I've tried a few times to hold onto a relationship while my travels pulled me in another direction but I've always ended up breaking up with the guy due to frustration. Holding on to that string of commitment many miles away just doesn't appeal to me.

Of course if someone comes along where that string is strong enough, as it apparently has for my other two girlfriends, then I wouldn't think it would be so much a struggle as a short break to reflect and miss the person you care about. Not to mention I hear that "welcome back, I missed you" sex is awesome.

*Sexclamations*  
By KJ Adler,  
Staff Writer

## Exaggerations Are the Best Thing Ever

Like so many girls in my age group, I exaggerate a lot. In fact, everything is I say is an exaggeration.

...It's hard to stop.

With my addiction to exaggeration comes an obsession with the superlative. Everything is "the best," or "my favorite" or "of all time." It gets old, fast.

Last Thursday I saw the best concert I've ever seen in my whole life.

Anyone who has been to a concert with me will tell you that I say that after every show I go to. But this time I mean it. Really.

Jenny Lewis, the lead singer of Rilo Kiley, played a set of her solo songs at Sixth and I Historic Synagogue in DC. Less than 200 people fit into the sold-out sanctuary to hear Lewis's angelic vocals and post-break up guitar riffs. It was intimate, energetic, and at times, spiritual. My perfect concert ended with the opportunity to meet my idol and get not only an autograph, but precious acknowledgement of my existence. Jenny said my name!

Another thing my friends could tell you: my obsession with Jenny Lewis is unhealthy. It may not be a total exaggeration when I say I want to be her.

Psychological deviancies aside, I was a little dismayed when my friends gave me a "girl who cried wolf" reaction to my latest concert ranking. They've grown accustomed to not taking my ultimate statements seriously. For some reason, I feel the need to convince them that I really

mean it this time. Why does it matter so much to me?

Despite being part of a coddled genera-

tion, we are still living in a cut-throat meritocracy. Measured by the 100th decimal of our GPAs, we are constantly ranking ourselves and our surroundings, be it top friends on MySpace or U.S. News's best colleges and universities.

Maybe we evaluate other people, events, and objects as a way to distract ourselves from our personal low rankings and inefficiencies.

There's a certain high that comes not just from being the best, but also from deeming yourself qualified to assess what is the best.

In the spirit of "High Fidelity" and "TRL," (R.I.P.) top lists and rankings have challenged popular culture to keep trying to outdo itself. How many "Top 100 Most Shock-Tabulous Celebrity Mortar riffs. It was intimate, energetic, and at times, spiritual. My perfect concert ended with the opportunity to meet my idol and get not only an autograph, but precious acknowledgement of my existence. Jenny said my name!"

My own exaggeration is not an attempt to show-off or mislead, but rather a less-than-subtle tactic to convey enthusiasm. I say, as part of a generation of hard-to-please youth consumed by text messaged apathy, a burst of passion can be refreshing.

With this in mind, I seize my right to deem my Jenny Lewis concert the best of all time, trumping Bruce Springsteen, and even P.Diddy opening for Britney Spears.

However, I do take comfort in that fact that this ranking is not permanent. I look forward to next best concert of all time I get to see. Now that the standard is set even higher, it should be life-changing.

Okay, maybe that's an exaggeration.



**Susannigans**  
By Susannah Clark,  
Associate Editor



photo courtesy of [apetitekelly.blogspot.com](http://apetitekelly.blogspot.com)

## Letter to the Editor: Safety is a Priority

Dear Editor:

In light of recent incidents regarding campus safety, I would like to voice my opinion about the security at Mary Washington.

Over the past year, I have come in contact with a number of events involving students being in threatening situations, and it has become impossible for me to ignore this issue.

Something I love about Mary Washington is that I have always felt safe, but now I find this feeling of security is lost.

I know that the Police Department obviously does their best to ensure our safety, but to me it seems like their priorities might be in the wrong place.

It is hard to understand why the school has spent so much money on arming police officers and giving them fancier cars, while incidences like what occurred in the parking garage last week are still able to happen.

I don't mean to criticize the intentions of the officers, but I really would like to see the police spend less time breaking up college parties and more time doing the work that is needed, such as doing everything possible to make sure the integrity of our safety is upheld.

Cassie Kollman is a junior.

## Does anything really grind your gears?



Image courtesy of [abovemediagoo.com](http://abovemediagoo.com)

Send columns and Letters to The Editor to [umwbulet@gmail.com](mailto:umwbulet@gmail.com)

The Question was: "What do you NOT know, and how will you overcome this?"

What I do not know is the unexpected... and I will overcome challenges as they arise.



Author's note: McCain appears as the state plant of Arizona (a 200 yr old cactus) while Obama appears as he is... a smile with nothing behind it

Well, ever there is my wife, and we have been together for many years. She has helped me through thick and thin, and we have faced many obstacles together! I want to thank this great country that is America, without the American Dream I could not be where I am today. I grew up financially unstable and was clearly not a member of the American Dream as well as my mother worked to support us children. Did I mention that she was a single mother? Oh, and there was this one time that I can recall when we used food stamps for food... that was pretty rough! Oh, we went to some great schools, but I'll have you know that we won the American Dream as well as my mother worked to support us children. Mother is a better person than the bad, and biased world. Yes, as a country, have the ability it for yourselves! So, in I would like to thank my siblings, some random people should be president, and all of supporters out there!



What the HELL did he just say?

What was the question?

Damn, that was like the Royal Flush of drinking speeches...

# Entertainment

## An American Stinker:

David Zucker Ridicules Liberals, Disrespects Dickens

By **MISSAK ARTINIAN**  
Staff Writer

Who would have thought that David Zucker, the man responsible for such comedic gems as "Airplane" and "The Naked Gun," could direct a right-wing political spoof as abysmal as "An American Carol?"

The movie's plot is loosely based on Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol." The Scrooge of the story, Michael Malone (a parody of Michael Moore), is an anti-American filmmaker who hates Independence Day and what it stands for, and seeks to have it abolished. But when John F. Kennedy's spirit steps out of Michael's television, he warns Michael that three ghosts will visit him. Big surprise.

One of the many problems with Zucker's spoof of arguably the greatest Christmas story ever written, besides being unfunny and predictable, is that it exploits the plot structure of Dickens's masterpiece without doing it any justice.

Dickens created a well-developed character who the audience could sympathize with. This made Scrooge's transformation from a despicable miser to a philanthropic hero all the more powerful.

But in Zucker's story, the audience is forced to hate Michael because he is portrayed negatively

as staunchly liberal, naively pacifist, pro gun-control, atheist and obese. Additionally, because of his "anti-American" documentaries, he has garnered a loyal fan-base in the hills of Afghanistan. Oh yeah, and he hates country music too.

Michael Malone does end up loving America in the end, again, big surprise, but all he really ends up loving is country music, guns, and barbecues on the fourth of July. This transformation leads to less than a cathartic emotional response. In fact, it leads to no response at all.

I sat in the theatre numb and confused. I had to question whether the movie was a left-wing spoof spoofing a right-wing spoof, or vice versa. Some of the messages in the movie were so ridiculous; it seemed to poke fun at its own intended audience. For example, one of the ghosts tells Michael, "and then there are people like you who abuse freedom of speech." Oh really? That's American.

The movie also pokes fun at education, having professors, dressed in clothing from the 1960s, teaching their students to hate war, America and God. Is this really the message that right-wing filmmakers want to send to right-wing audiences?

Now I understand that the movie is slapstick comedy, and to its credit, there are some points in the movie that are amusing and that generate a chuckle here and there. One scene early on has

Malone filming a documentary parodying "Sicko." Michael tells the camera that the Cuban government actually cares for their people, unlike America, right before a Cuban guard shoots someone in a wheelchair.

Scenes like that are few and far between, and are offset by mindless slapstick jokes. Are we to expect that the tenth time that Michael Malone gets slapped in the face, by Bill O'Reilly no less, is supposed to be just as funny as the first? And I'm a sucker for slapstick comedy.

Zucker seems so fixated on making fun of Michael Moore that he loses sight of what's funny and what's not. Putting a rat inside Michael's pizza box is not my idea of funny; it's disgusting. Compare that to a memorable scene in "Airplane" where a young girl rejects a young boy's offer to put cream in her coffee because, in her words, "I like my coffee black, like my men." Laugh your-ass-off moments-like that are completely nonex-



image courtesy of cache beston.com

istent in "An American Carol."

I decided to get to the bottom of how a man who once produced such gold can turn around and produce something as mindless and uninspired as "An American Carol." It turns out that David Zucker, a former Democrat, has recently admitted, while promoting the movie, that he considers himself Republican. It seems that his sense of humor has disappeared along with his former political identity.

To determine whether the movie is worth your time and money, it doesn't matter what your

Political affiliation is. Democrat or Republican, if you're a rational human-being with even the slightest notion of what humor is, you'll probably find watching meat decay in a jar more entertaining than watching "An American Carol."

## the Spotlight

### "Stop, Drop, and Roll"

by Foxboro Hot Tubs  
(2008)

By **TRICIA CALLAHAN**  
Staff Writer

Imagine you're Green Day circa 2005, surrounded by adoring fans and rave reviews. Then

you're faced with the challenge of creating an album even close to the caliber of your triple-platinum album, "American Idiot."

Enter the Foxboro Hot Tubs, Green Day's dirty little retro secret. Side bands are nothing new to Green Day, who also released "Money, Money 2020," under the alias The Network in 2003.

Foxboro Hot Tubs' debut album "Stop, Drop, and Roll" is a 12-track 60s throwback record. The music is softer rock than what you may be used to from a group like Green Day. There are moments that hum and explosions of music, that rely on in-

strumentation to enhance the sound instead of relying heavily on vocals. On this album, lyrics and vocals seem like an afterthought.

Green Day's bass player Mike Dirnt and drummer Tre Cool went by their given names Michael Pritchard and Frank Edwin Wright III, while the lead singer Billie Joe Armstrong went by his alter ego, Reverend Strychnine Twitch. Non-original members Jason White, guitarist, and background vocalist and keyboardist Jason Freese add a unique instrumental element to Green Day's usual punk-rock sound.

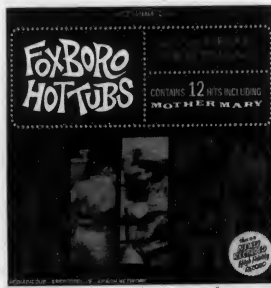


image courtesy of amazon.com

Clues to Green Day's background are hidden throughout the album. Foxboro was a neighborhood that Mike Dirnt and Billie Joe Armstrong grew up in Rodeo, Calif. As for the other half of the band title, "Hot Tubs," refers to the hot tubs they would sneak into in Foxboro, occasionally with girls. "Ruby Room," a track on the new album, references a bar in Oakland, Calif. where Dirnt, Cool and Armstrong are Ruby Room regulars.

All joking aside, the music produced by Foxboro Hot Tubs slips back to times when neon green slip covers where popular. With lyrics like "Mother Mary take my hand / I'll be your saint I'll be your man," your mind and body will hum with delight.

Green Day confessed their involvement in an email to MTV. Their statement read, "All things considered, The Network or Green Day would make excellent openers for a Foxboro Hot Tub tour."

Sick of waiting for Green Day's return? Pick up a copy of "Stop, Drop, and Roll," a little chunk of Green Day history.

## UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON CAREER DAY 2008 Thursday, Oct 23, 2008 11 a.m.-3 p.m.

Great Hall, Woodard Campus Center, Fredericksburg Campus  
For additional information, contact Career Services at 540-654-1022.

[www.umw.edu/careerservices](http://www.umw.edu/careerservices)

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#### American Cancer Association

[www.americancancer.org](http://www.americancancer.org)

#### Caroline County Sheriff's Office

[www.carolinesheriff.org](http://www.carolinesheriff.org)

#### Central State Hospital

[www.csh.virginia.gov](http://www.csh.virginia.gov)

#### Chesterfield County Police Department

[www.chesterfield.com](http://www.chesterfield.com)

#### Chesterfield Fire and EMS

[www.chesterfield.gov](http://www.chesterfield.gov)

#### Childhelp

[www.childhelp.org](http://www.childhelp.org)

#### Colonial Life

[www.coloniallife.com](http://www.coloniallife.com)

#### Defense Energy Support Center

[www.desc.af.mil](http://www.desc.af.mil)

#### Department of Defense, OIG

[www.dodig.mil](http://www.dodig.mil)

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[www.fcps.net](http://www.fcps.net)

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[www.netprogram.org](http://www.netprogram.org)

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[www.peacecorps.gov](http://www.peacecorps.gov)

#### Poppi Bottling Group

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#### Primerica Financial Services

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#### Prince George's County Police Department

[www.pgpolice.org](http://www.pgpolice.org)

#### Prince William County Police Department

[www.pwcops.org](http://www.pwcops.org)

#### Rappahannock Area Community

[www.rapcc.com](http://www.rapcc.com)

#### Services Board

[www.scb.state.va.us](http://www.scb.state.va.us)

#### Richmond Police Department

[www.richmondga.gov](http://www.richmondga.gov)

#### S.W.I.E.T

[www.swiet.com](http://www.swiet.com)

#### Social Security Administration

[www.ssa.gov](http://www.ssa.gov)

#### Southern Teachers Agency

[www.southernteachers.com](http://www.southernteachers.com)

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#### Teach For America

[www.teachforamerica.org](http://www.teachforamerica.org)

#### TEKsystems

[www.teksystems.com](http://www.teksystems.com)

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#### U.S. Army Healthcare Recruiting

[www.healthcare.army.mil](http://www.healthcare.army.mil)

#### U.S. Department of Education - OIG

[www.ed.gov/about/offices/08101](http://www.ed.gov/about/offices/08101)

#### U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration

[www.dea.gov](http://www.dea.gov)

#### U.S. GSA - Office of Audits

[www.slg.gsa.gov](http://www.slg.gsa.gov)

#### U.S. Public Interest Research Group (PIRG)

[www.pirg.org](http://www.pirg.org)

#### U.S. Secret Service

[www.usss.gov](http://www.usss.gov)

#### USDA Farm Service Agency

[www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)

#### United States Postal Service

[www.usps.gov](http://www.usps.gov)

#### Vickers & Nolan Enterprises (VNE)

[www.vneonline.com](http://www.vneonline.com)

#### Virginia Army National Guard

[www.vanng.com](http://www.vanng.com)

#### Virginia Asset Management

[www.vamllc.com](http://www.vamllc.com)

This list is subject to change

# Entertainment

## First Friday Art Openings: Fredericksburg's Best-Kept Secret

By **LAUREN ORSINI**  
Staff Writer

When UMW alumna Caitlin Kell wanted a place to showcase her artwork, downtown Fredericksburg's First Friday event seemed like the right option.

This '05 grad isn't alone in her decision. Each month on the first Friday of the month, hundreds of local artists display their work at the nine galleries in downtown Fredericksburg.

"It's a good opportunity to show my work to my community. It's a great way for me to come out and participate in the community and my school," Kell said.

The First Friday event began in 1992 when resident artist Johnny Johnson established Art First, Fredericksburg's oldest artist co-op. According to local artist Pat Thalman, the event has been so lasting and successful that one third of the original 30 members are still involved in First Friday.

"It's a very important day of the month for the art community. It's a tradition now. We establish many of our sales as a result of this night," Thalman said.

Though First Friday has been a perennial event in downtown Fredericksburg for sixteen years, resident sculptor Joseph Wilkinson notes that surprisingly few Mary Washington students attend.

"First Friday is still a well kept secret—not that we want it to be that way," Wilkinson said.

However, resident painter Bill Harris has observed a steady rise in First Friday attendance. Harris has been a local painter since before the beginning of the event and a resident artist at LibertyTown gallery for the past decade.

"Every night, half [of our attendees] are people that have never been here before, and half are peo-

ple that have come back," Harris said. Harris also says that the event is a great opportunity for Mary Washington students.

**Catch the next First Friday Nov. 7 at Art First at 824 Caroline Street, Brushstrokes at 810 Caroline, the Wounded Bookshop at 109 Amelia St., and many others.**

"It's fantastic first, because it's a place to get free entertainment, food, and beverages, and second, it's a walking tour of Fredericksburg if you visit all the galleries," Harris said.

First Friday has also been a place for many art majors at UMW to launch their careers. The Visitors' Center gallery on the intersection of Caroline and Charlotte hosts a show by UMW art students every month.

Long before Kell displayed her work at First Friday, '68 MWC alumna Beverly Coates began her career in the same location.

"After displaying my work at First Friday in April 2004, I made the step from saying I'm an artist to saying I'm a professional artist," Coates said.

However, the event isn't just for art majors. Students interested in seeing the area through its galleries, meeting artists and other community members, and eating and drinking for free should also attend.



UMW seniors Cari Kreidinger and Eva Richardson admire the artwork at downtown gallery Art First.

"I like going because it's fun and there's free food and wine," said senior Eva Richardson.

## 'The Force Unleashed:' Lucasarts Beats a Dead Horse

By **ELIOT HAGEN**  
Staff Writer

The Star Wars cash cow's test was once rosy in hue and unchuffed, but decades of milking the franchise has left it bone dry and atrophied, with a horrible prequel trilogy and a slew of mediocre to borderline unplayable games. Though I acknowledge that several Star Wars games were stellar, (The "X-Wing" series, and the "Battlefront" series, for example) "The Force Unleashed" is not.

There were several good things about this—the incorporation of the Euphoria engine made using the Force as realistic as it's ever been in a game. The graphics were excellent, as were the sound and music. However, a game that could have been excellent is only average due to poor level design, poor enemy design, broken game mechanics, and a relatively incompetent handling of the Star Wars myths.

It was also way too short and easy, with the only difficulties arising from bad design as opposed to true difficulty. A skilled gamer will be able to beat this one in about 10 hours, unless it freezes mid-level or even during the final boss, as it did for me. Oh, and be prepared for LONG loading times—even between menus and submenus.

The levels were all relatively similar, with many levels being revisited to artificially lengthen an already short game. You have star cruiser environments, jungle environments, and the 'junky' planet, Raxus Prime. There's also a level on Coruscant and the Death Star. This was particu-

larly disappointing seeing as there are so many planets in the Star Wars galaxy that they didn't use, including Tatooine and Hoth.

The combat was repetitive and often unintuitive, and the targeting system was absolutely horrible. Even when there was only one enemy on screen, you'd often end up hitting or missing your Force lightning on a piece of debris rather than your real target. It's even worse because in order to target someone you have to hold down the targeting button.

The number of interactive objects is staggering, with your Jedi, named 'Starkiller,' being able to use the Force to hurl anything from a Tie Bomber to a tiny scrap of metal. While this is useful to clear enemies, it can be annoying because of the targeting issue.

The more intense and cinematic fight sequences are handled entirely by incredibly simple quick time events, so you'll usually end up using the same combos throughout the game.

In most  
b o s s



image courtesy of Lucasarts

fights, I could corner my opponent and spam the same move over and over until he died, and many enemies who should have been incredibly difficult, like Darth Maul and Darth Vader, were the exact opposite, the fights with them being easy and formulaic.

The Imperial Star Destroyer boss fight, however, was one of the hardest I've ever had to endure, not because it was difficult, but because it took far too long due to constant waves of attackers. Also, the on-screen prompts that were meant to tell you how to pull down the Star Destroyer were, in fact, incorrect.

The enemies are pretty average, with the same old recognizable ranks of the Imperial Army along with AT-ST's and other vehicles. You're also forced to fight strange robots, Rodians, Felucians, Rancors, and Jawas. The problem with these is that, once you unlock certain moves, the challenge is completely removed. There's a broken move that allows you to kill any vehicle or Rancor without any effort at all, and do it without losing any health.

There are no health pickups, but don't worry—every time you kill an enemy, you get a fraction of his health added on to yours. This removes all strategy when fighting large groups because all you have to do is kill a few low-level enemies and your health will be full again. The only time where health would ever become an issue is during a boss fight, but, as I said, you could always exploit the broken gameplay to win those.

The storyline wasn't horrible simply because it's Star Wars, but it's an insult to the original saga, with several lines being taken directly from the movies and being spoken by inferior characters. There are identical shots, identical sound effects, identical monologues, even—but this doesn't make the game better. It just cheapens the movies. And by movies, I mean the originals—not the abominations that are the prequel trilogy.

It also comes complete with the requisite love interest named 'Juno Eclipse,' and it's clear to any fan of the movies that the makers of the game were trying to recreate the Han/Leia chemistry. They failed. In addition to that, the storyline and treatment of characters like Darth Vader and The Emperor destroys a part of the original movie. While a paradox isn't created, the plot here drags the rest of the timeline down with it.

This game isn't horrible, but it's not worth buying. Rent it, beat it in a weekend, and get on with your life. The Force is most definitely well with this one.

## Old Crow Medicine Show Release Another Gem

By **AARON RICHARDSON**  
Entertainment Editor

Fans of Old Crow Medicine Show have been without new material from the Nashville-based roots band since "Big Iron World" came out in 2006. Since then, OCMS have toured tirelessly, and played "Wagon Wheel," their most recognized track, at least three billion times.

In an effort to move beyond their well-established reputation as a top-shelf traditional Americana act, Old Crow have moved to a more modern sound on "Tennessee Pusher."

Released on Sept. 23, "Pusher" is a definite departure from the banjo and fiddle-driven songs

of their last four albums.

"Tennessee Pusher" marks the first time the band has released an album of entirely original material. On previous records, Old Crow have stuck to a regimen of original songs mixed in with rearranged folk traditions.

The new album utilizes accents from the dobro of Critter Fuqua, and Ketch Secor's plaintive harmonica. The effect is a much bluesier record than any of their previous efforts. The most serious departure from the Old Crow fans have come to know is the addition of a drummer on several tracks.

On "Methamphetamine," for example, the

band employs a simple, driving drumbeat accompanied by some of bassist Morgan Jahng's more elegant work to date. Coupled with an opening harmonica solo, you get something resembling a southern Bruce Springsteen.

That isn't to say they've cribbed the Boss's towering guitar or saxophone solos, far from it, but the structure and lyrical content bare a resemblance. Whereas OCMS were a strictly traditional folk-bluegrass band, they have moved into the realm of alt-country in one swift move.

For those fans opposed to this movement, tracks like "Always Lift Him Up and Never Let Him Down," and "Next Go 'Round" let the Old

Crow of the past shine through. On "Next Go 'Round" OCMS return to the fiddle-driven melodies of their past albums, accompanied by simple guitar work and a plodding bass line.

On their fifth studio release, Old Crow Medicine Show have made an effort to expand their sound and musical sensibilities beyond traditional covers. By adding new sounds, and focusing away from what fans are used to, OCMS have produced a refreshing record that highlights both versatility and a true songwriting talent.

After four albums spent honing their songwriting skills, OCMS have pulled together a solid collection of all-original material.



# Features



Courtesy of Leah Shopneck

## Seamster at Sea

UMW student spends 90 days seafaring

By STEFANIE ROCHE  
Staff Writer

A crew of students shifted anxiously as the First Mate aimed his fire hose and then, without warning, turned it on and blasted the students over the side of the boat and into the ocean.

It was the first part of their initiation ceremony to celebrate crossing the equator.

But that was only the beginning for UMW senior Leah Shopneck, and her friends also participating in Seamster, which is a semester long study program that starts in the British Virgin Islands, ends in Tahiti and spends long stretches at sea. Shopneck is the first UMW student to participate in this program.

The first overnight passage at sea was one of the hardest parts of the trip. It was mid January, only three days into the program and the front of the boat kept dipping literally underwater as waves broke over the bow.

"I had never been on a boat before, and you were just drenched within seconds," Shopneck said. "The water just came up and hit you so hard it knocked you over." While on deck, the crew had to be buckled into safety harnesses and over half of them were seasick.

"There were literally straps and netting to hold you in place as you slept," she said. "Trying to sleep was like riding a rollercoaster, we felt every wave."

For three months, from mid January to April, Shopneck made her home on a two-year-old sailboat named Argo. The 5-foot-8-inch brunette shared a six-person cabin with five other women. The room was triangularly shaped, with bunk beds covering two walls.

The six women grew very close. They had to.

"There was no such thing as personal space," Shopneck said.

One of her cabin mates was the most seasick of the crew, and she did not venture below deck for two days. Additionally the heat in the cabin was unbearable at times; there was no air conditioning and only one hatch opened.

"We slept in our own sweat at night, and there was no shower on board," Shopneck said. "We jumped in the ocean to bathe while at anchor."

One woman left the program just after the first week on board.

The longest stretch at sea was 19 straight days and by that time crewmembers had started to wear on each other.

"It was hard, but we knew that we had over 30 more days together," Shopneck said. "These people were like siblings at this point and you just had to let things go."

On board, Shopneck's captain, Brendon 'Boomer' Baumeister, referred to her as "Gilligan."

"Because she was like a little buddy. She made my job easy, always working, polite, kind and enthusiastic," he said. "She was the happiest person on board; you would just look at her and smile."

Shopneck's shipmate Dani Gagliardi echoed Boomer's compliments.

"She kept life simple and drama free. She is such a real person, it was impossible not to get along with her," Gagliardi said.

Seamster earned Shopneck 15 UMW elective credits in Marine biology, Oceanography, Basic Seamanship, Student Leadership, and Professional Skipper Training. Her 90-day journey traveled through the Panama Canal and the Galapagos Islands.

While in the Galapagos, Shopneck faced her most terrifying deepsea dive.

The ocean water was very cold.

See SEA, page 8 ▶



Courtesy of Leah Shopneck

Left, an ocean view from Argo, a ship and Leah Shopneck's Seamster home. Above, Shopneck takes a stroll on the beach.

## Speaker Warns of Gang Violence

By ANDREA NEALON  
Staff Writer

Jail, hospital, or the grave, three places where gang members are most likely to find themselves, are represented by a simple tri-dotted tattoo commonly found on the hands of members of the Latino gang MS-13.

According to detective Joshua Lynch of the Fredericksburg Police Department, their membership has expanded from major cities to suburbs and smaller cities, including Northern Virginia.

In a recent talk at the University of Mary Washington about gang violence, Lynch said gang membership can include even very young teens, like Mara Salvatrucha, a 13-year-old who he said is responsible for countless murders, robberies and rapes in the U.S., El Salvador, Guatemala and Mexico.

The tattoos, he said, tell the story of the gang members' criminal accom-

plishments.

"When you see gang members with tattoos on their necks, faces and heads," said Lynch, "that means they are longtime members with major felonies under their belts."

Painful and permanent records of gang membership, tattoos represent loyalty, dedication, and status, according to Lynch. They also represent murder, robbery, rape, arson and drug dealing. Lynch told the Mary Washington audience that MS-13, which started in the 1980's as a group of immigrant El Salvadorian guerrilla fighters in Los Angeles, has expanded to 33 states with an estimated 10,000 members, and more than 40,000 in Central America.

Lynch explained how the gang's tendencies for extreme violence have placed them above the more famous—

*"When you see gang members with tattoos on their necks, faces and heads that means they are longtime members with major felonies under their belts."*

—Joshua Lynch

or notorious—Bloods and the Crips in terms of ruthless reputation. "They're known for their use of edged weapons, especially machetes, as opposed to guns," said Lynch. "They like to get up close and personal with their enemies."

Before Lynch launched into a de-

tailed description of MS-13's gruesome weapon of choice, the ancient floorboards of a Monroe Hall classroom creaked and groaned with about 40 Mary Washington students crowding together to catch his hour-long presentation on gang culture in Northern Virginia. Sociology students were lured in with the promise of extra credit points; but nevertheless, there was an impressive turnout for the virtually unpublicized event.

Vivid photos of fully tattooed gang members and blurry video clips of gang initiations enhanced Lynch's fast-paced presentation. Local law enforcement, he said, is taking the threat of gang activity seriously as it inches closer to the Fredericksburg area.

"The Rappahannock Regional Gang-Drug-Terrorism Task Force was established back in 2005 to monitor the

developments of gang activity in Northern Virginia," he said.

Comprised of police officers from Fredericksburg, sheriff's deputies from neighboring counties and crime analysts, the task force works to proactively reduce gang violence. They are able to do this by creating a network in which officers target individual gang members.

Shortly after the creation of the task force in 2005, William Neely, the commonwealth's attorney for Spotsylvania County, supported a law allowing prosecutors to convene special grand juries to hear witness testimony. As a result, grand jury investigations have helped prosecutors catch gang leaders.

"It's the only way we can go after gang leaders," said Neely in a 2005 interview to the *Washington Post*. "Without the grand jury, you get stifled at the street level, arresting little soldiers who are too afraid" to implicate a leader.



Courtesy of Carole Creque

## Island Business

By SADIE HAGBERG  
Staff Writer

Upon the UMW international marketing group's departure from the Caribbean Islands of Trinidad and Tobago last spring, the bus driver had burned each student a CD of Soca and Calypso music, the islands' local dance music.

The bus driver had spent the entire week of spring break driving professor Carole Creque's business major students around the islands.

Business majors like senior Annie Backhus traveled to the Caribbean to gain a hands-on experience in the business and international marketing fields.

"Before we left, he made us CDs so each of us could remember our stay in Trinidad and be able to listen to the music whenever we wanted," Backhus said.

This year, the trip is part of a 3-credit seminar class, the Environment of International Business seminar. Creque, assistant professor of marketing and a Trinidad native, will teach the seminar.

Trinidad is one of the richest Caribbean Islands. It is primarily an oil-based economy and relies heavily on the importing and exporting of goods, especially raw

materials.

This spring, for the second year in a row the business department will offer a trip as an elective for the business major.

"We wanted to implement a practical component to an in class session," Creque said.

As a native of Trinidad, she was able to use certain connections in order to create a unique experience for her students.

"They get a first hand view of how money is handled and how decisions are made in another country," Creque said.

Last year, students were kept busy Monday through Friday applying what they had learned in the classroom to real world situations. The nine-day trip includes five eight-hour workdays.

The first day students visited the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, where they gained a clear understanding of the country's currency flows.

For the remainder of the week the group visited one or two companies or manufacturers per day. The companies gave a presentation to the students to give them an understanding of the inner workings of that company.

See ISLAND, page 8 ▶

Business majors interested in International Marketing spent last Spring break learning the economy of islands' Trinidad and Tobago. This year, 14 students will each earn 3 credits for the trip.

## Class on Isle

◀ ISLAND, page 7

Manufacturers gave tours of the factory to give the students a first hand account of how it works.

"We visited a lot of different kinds of companies who all had something different to say about international marketing," Backhus said. "I would eventually like to work in international marketing and I thought this would be a great way to see how it is done first hand."

At the end of the week the students visited the Port Authority of Trinidad and Tobago.

"The Port is the brainchild of everything," Creque said.

All goods come into the country and leave the country through the port.

Creque estimated about 30 students will be vying for the 14 spots available for this year's spring semester seminar. With a 14-person cap, interested students must go through an application and interview process to enroll.

Creque said she looks for students with a very serious interest in international marketing, as well as the ability to be part of a team.

"Success of this trip comes from being able to work as team," Creque said.

While in Trinidad, the group never splits up. Creque stressed that safety is a concern, so keeping the group in a controlled setting helps ensure the safety of each person. A bus drives them everywhere and waits to bring them back to their hotel.

Erika Howells, a junior taking Creque's international marketing class this semester, said she hopes to be selected for next semester's seminar.

"I really like marketing," Howells said. "This is my second class with Dr. Creque and I really like her. It would be a really good experience and would look great on a resume."



Courtesy of Carole Creque

UMW's business trip during spring break 2008 departed from the Port of Spain, above.



Susanah Clark, the Bulletin

**The origin of the statue of George Washington standing at Dodd Auditorium remains unknown.**

By **SUSANNAH CLARK**  
Associate Editor

A mysterious man lingers in the lobby of Dodd Auditorium, peering over anxious concert-goers and overwhelmed freshmen awaiting Honor Convocation. Surrounded by the flags of UMW's international sister schools, the statue of Houdon's George Washington in George Washington Hall remains a mystery to the Mary Washington community.

Though in the school's possession since 1939, the statue was not logged into the University's private collection until 2006, after Brooke Kingsley, assistant to the Executive Vice President, starting researching the statue's origin. Kingsley was put in charge of restoring the statue by Vice President Hurley during other renovations to Dodd in 2005.

"The project I was working on stemmed from the fact that the statue was deteriorating and in need of repair," Kingsley said. "I wanted to provide the restorers with as much background about the origin of the statue as possible."

A *Free Lance-Star* article from June 3, 1939, confirms that the statue was a gift from the Mary Washington College class of 1939, to be placed in the newly erected George Washington Hall. Though Kingsley was able to get in

touch with several surviving members of the class of 1939, no one has any recollection of how the statue was obtained.

The statue, which portrays Washington in his Revolutionary War uniform, is a replica of a sculpture that stands in the state Capitol rotunda in Richmond that was sculpted by Jean Antoine Houdon in the late 18th century. Houdon's sculpture is considered the most authentic portrayal of George Washington, as the sculptor traveled to Mount Vernon in 1785 to take measurements of Washington's body and to make a clay bust of his face.

In February 2006, the Virginia State Senate passed a bill declaring that all molds of Houdon's statue, authorized or unauthorized, are considered property of the Commonwealth. The bill also dictated the state librarian to take possession of any unauthorized molds.

Tracy Kamerer, who was then the curator of state art collection in the Library of Virginia, worked with Kingsley in determining how the statue got to UMW. Kamerer's research linked UMW's statue to one other known plaster replica of Houdon's in the Boston Athenaeum and was created by Caproni and Company circa 1930. Most other known replicas are made of marble, like Houdon's original. Kamerer told the *Free Lance-Star* in 2006 that she

thought UMW's statue was a 20th century piece.

Kingsley confirmed the Boston connection in her own research after the statue was restored and cleaned over winter break in 2005. While placing steel rods in the statue's deteriorating right arm, restorer Alex Nunally found a newspaper clip wadded above hollow elbow. The clip was from the Boston's *Daily Record Newspaper* and was dated May 24, 1939, with a cost of 2 cents.

Though an important detail, restorer Nunally said that the newspaper clipping could be from a previous repair and does not necessarily reveal when the statue was sculpted.

Kingsley decided in 2006 that there was not known about the statue to merit a plaque.

"I discovered that there are still pieces of the mystery unanswered, and we weren't able to get as definitive information as we had hoped," Kingsley said. "It seems we have a very special statue here in GW Hall, it's still surrounded by mystery. Maybe someone else will take it on again and uncover more details!"

When asked about the statue, Junior Emma Carone didn't have a hard time picturing the mold of George Washington.

"Isn't that the one with the huge camel toe?" she asked.

## Sea Student Fares Well

◀ SEAMESTER, page 7

Forced to wear thicker wet suits than normal, the group donned gloves and hoods, similar to ski masks.

"Two people had to help us get dressed because the suits were so tight," Shopneck said. "It was a workout and we were all sweating and then had to jump into cold water."

During the dive briefing the guide warned about the 80-foot depth of the water, strong currents and the possibility of seeing hammerhead sharks.

With the dive team on edge the crew submerged into a world inhabited by stingrays the size of a person and a baby octopus that kept changing colors.

As they made their way along the ocean floor they came upon 30 six-foot sharks, whitetip and blacktip reef sharks, floating in their path.

"My initial reaction was definitely not to swim toward them," Shopneck said. "But our guide decided to take us as close as possible."

Human presence, to Shopneck's surprise, did not affect the sharks.



Courtesy of Leah Shopneck

Shopneck basks in the sun with three giant tortoises during her trip.

"As we swam up to them, they just stared back at us with their black, beady eyes and eventually got scared of us and swam away," Shopneck said.

Back on the Argo the crew talked about the dive for days. The feeling of panic Shopneck associated with the shark encounter is still a vivid memory.

The Seamester experience cost the same as one semester at UMW as an out-of-state student, roughly \$13,000. The Seamester application process was extensive and included a phone interview.

Shopneck was not immediately landlocked when her voyage docked at its final destination. The program she completed offered her a job for the summer. During the summer she traveled the Caribbean teaching college students how to sail, and she hopes to get a job with Seamester after graduation this year.

"It is amazing how one experience can lead to another," Shopneck said. "Living on Argo was life changing for me. I was able to discover something new in life that I love, and I did it all on my own."

## THAT'S WHAT SHE SAID...

By **KAITLIN MAYHEW**  
Assistant Features Editor

Archbishop Lazar Puhalo asked my 41 a.m. world religions class to raise our hands if we considered ourselves active Christians. A sparse array of hands followed. He then asked how many of us were raised in Christian families. Almost every hand went up.

This was very typical, he told us, of every group he has asked that question to. Although I was one of those who raised their hand only to the second question, I was unaware of how many like-minded peers I had.

I had no ceremonial fall from grace or tumultuous crisis of faith. There was just years of disillusionment mixed with never really finding solace or belonging.

According to Puhalo, the reason many young people flee their family's chosen faith has to do with a feeling of constraint placed upon them by that faith. Another contributing factor is that many religious persons use churches as platforms to push their political and moral agendas.

To many people, he continued, church and faith were just gave a list of things to do, guilt, and penance. Religion in our culture, especially Christianity is no longer a religion, he asserted. It is a part of culture very integrated in so many things, including pol-

itics that it is difficult to separate the two in today's society and make the Christian tradition what it once was.

I can't claim these particular sentiments. My church was never very guilt-driven. My drift from church wasn't about feeling persecuted or constrained.

It was simply about not finding what I needed. I went most Sundays in my younger days, I went to youth group, and confirmation class, etc. However, I felt nothing, nothing spiritual or intriguing and nothing particularly enlightening.

I continued to go and to participate, until I realized that doing these things had become a routine, something I was used to doing but something that I didn't really care about.

I have an interest in religious thinking and spirituality that I continue to explore. I no longer, however, identify with any specific religion. In my case I feel like I would be ignorant to choose a set of beliefs without first learning about many different kinds first.

If I do ever decide to join another religion again I want it to be one that is meaningful to me.

My own sentiments make me think of the students in my class that were raising their hands along with me.

Maybe they are looking for the same thing, something meaningful. Maybe there is hope for religion in the world yet.

## This Week in Town

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# News

## Lofts Banned in Dorms

◀ DORM, page 1

let recently reported that several dorm students were documented for having a water pong table in their room earlier this semester. School officials said it constituted a fire hazard.

Another frustration of some students is a UMW rule that forbids hanging tapestries in dorm rooms.

"The fact that you can hang a poster but not a tapestry is a little ridiculous to me," Moomay said. "I mean a poster is just as flammable as a tapestry."

School officials say that and many other rules were written in hopes of preventing fires and with the intent to keep students safe. However, with regular fire drills and little history of dormitory fires at UMW, students are on edge.

Pofter was sympathetic towards students, but defended the university.

"The policies were developed for the greater good, but yes I understand the student's perspective on this rule," she said. "In my 22 years working in Residence Life, UMW is my 5th campus...I do not feel that UMW is more restrictive than other universities."

Many UMW students disagree, citing other areas schools that they say are less restrictive than UMW.

"If you crack down on everything, that's a little unreasonable in my mind," Emmel said, who not only had to get rid of her loft, but was also ordered to dispose of a lamp that her R.A. said was prohibited.

Emmel said she got rid of it, but is still mystified about why exactly the lamp was prohibited.



photo courtesy of Arik Knapp

Left: The UMW Canoe/Kayak team gets ready to hit the water

Front Row:  
Townsend Hart,  
Jessica Waldman,  
Brittney Baker,  
Rebekah Blackwell,  
Michelle Bond,  
Ashley Cottichio, and  
Mike Toeller

Back Row:  
Cameron John  
and Dan Hudson.

## River Sports Hit Rappahannock

By JOHANNAH O'KEEFE  
Staff Writer

The weekend of Oct 11, UMW's newly-formed Canoe and Kayak Club team will participate in the Collegiate National Canoe Race sponsored by the American Canoe Association (ACA).

The race will take place on the Rappahannock River for the first time. UMW, ACA and the Virginia Outdoor Center are hosting the event.

Arik Knapp and Cameron John, both juniors, and long-time paddlers, lead the Canoe and Kayak team. They are focused on honing the team's paddling skills for the big event,

John said.

"We have begun to brainstorm on how to expand and grow the club and its activities for the spring and next fall," Chris Stec, of the ACA, said.

The race will begin at Mott's Public Landing in Old Mill Park in downtown Fredericksburg at 9:30 a.m. The events include an open, and open single male and female canoe and kayak race on Saturday, as well as a mixed canoe relay on Sunday.

The ACA, under the guidance of ACA Board President Kirk Havens and Bill Micks of the Virginia Outdoor Center, was responsible for bringing the Collegiate Championships to Fredericksburg, Stec said.

The Canoe and Kayak team at Mary Washington is sponsored by the Virginia Outdoor Center, located in Central Park. The Virginia Outdoor Center provides the team with all boats and equipment free of charge.

There is no fee for schools wishing to register for the race, but every college must become an ACA Paddle America College Club in order to participate.

The ACA membership fee is \$250, John said.

According to Stec, schools from Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania and Virginia are expected to participate.

## Minority Enrollment

◀ DIVERSITY, page 1

African, Asian, or Latin American descent, Julian Greene said he would not transfer to UMW. Greene, a sophomore at Germanna, said that he knows the university has an outstanding academic reputation, but he feels it is important for him to take classes where he learns some cultural awareness not typically offered in public grade school.

Katrina Stewart, another sophomore from Germanna who is currently considering several universities in the area, said she also would not consider transferring to UMW. Stewart cited two main reasons.

"First of all they do not offer my intended major, and even if they did, they are not ethnically diverse," she said.

Several UMW students of various ethnic backgrounds also had concerns about the school. Many of them said they would like to see more classes offered that would enlighten them on the rich heritages of minorities.

They say there is often little information taught in high schools about the history and cultural facets of minorities, so finding a college that offers such courses are often an important factor when considering which universities to attend.

A few UMW students also said that cost of tuition at the University may also present some obstacles for prospective students. Some students say that financial aid can be difficult to get.

One student, Jillian Rouse, recalled a friend of hers from last semester who had to drop out of school because she could not afford to attend UMW anymore. Rouse said that even though school staff personally tried to help her friend attain financial aid, it was not enough to cover the cost of attendance. Rouse said that she thinks if more financial aid were available it might help some minorities who come from lower-income families attend UMW.

Additional data provided by the Office of Planning, Assessment, and Institutional Research, along with Human Resources, show that minority students made up less than 15 percent of all students admitted in the year 2008. Minority employees make up roughly 13 percent of all UMW employees this year as well. Even then,

most of those hired hold jobs considered classified, which includes such jobs as landscaping, custodial work, and servicing the food facilities.

Although Roy Weinstock, vice president for planning, assessment, and institutional research, said that though the University does devote energy towards specifically recruiting minority applicants and faculty members, these efforts have had little success. Employment figures supplied by the Human Resources department indicate that there has even been a loss of minority faculty members over the last few years.

Said Weinstock, "Hiring instructors of a minority ethnic group is difficult because many of them choose bigger schools with bigger budgets. The University cannot compete with the salaries of some of the larger universities out there."

Another surprising figure was the ever growing "other" category. Since 2003, there has been a steadily increasing number of students who choose not to define their race when applying.

These students may be part of the Caucasian population or one of the several minority groups on campus. When students choose not to disclose their race on applications, it makes it difficult for the recruiting office to accurately analyze the success of minority recruitment, according to school officials.

Dr. Karina Tokareva, a visiting assistant professor of History at UMW, says that she would love to see more courses offered in a variety of specialties, but that it is a matter of budget, and hiring professors to teach those subjects.

"This is a small school, and is still in many ways very traditional. We are just now starting to move towards more progressive areas of studies in more recent years," she said.

Tokareva added, "It was only a few decades ago that this school was all girls. Look how far we have come from that. These types of changes just take time."

Paula Olson, a senior who is club treasurer of both Women of Color and Students Educating and Empowering Diversity, believes that while active efforts are being made to get more minorities on campus, there is still work to be done.

"The hard part is, we need to have more minorities to get more minorities, which can make the process a tough cycle to break," she said.

Olson believes once interested minorities can visit the campus and see a stronger presence of other minority students in attendance, they will feel more comfortable applying and enrolling.

“We need to have more minorities to get more minorities, which can make the process a tough cycle to break”

—Paula Olson

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# Sports



## Who Will Be The Beast Of The East?

◀ MOVE ON, page 12

the same thing against the Dodgers.

The two teams played each other eight times this summer and every time the home team won. Home field advantage will be big in this one.

The Dodgers are dangerous, but if the Phillies' pitching can perform like they did against the Brewers, they have just as potent of an offense as the Dodgers and can easily keep up. In the seven-game series, I believe that the Phillies will win in six games.

The Tampa Bay Rays will face off against the Boston Red Sox as they both took down their respective opponents in four games. The Red Sox beat the Angels on Monday night after a controversial play enabled the Red Sox to win in the bottom of the ninth.

With pinch-runner Reggie Willits on third base for the Angels, Erick Aybar squared up to bunt as Willits took a suicide lead.

Soon after, Aybar was unable to get the bat head on the ball and Jason Vartek was able to chase down Willits and put the tag on him before reaching third base. Vartek fell right after the tag was put on; his glove hit the ground and the ball rolled out.

However, Willits was still called out because third-base umpire Tim Welke determined that Vartek had control of the ball long enough after the tag that the ball leaving the glove was a discontinuation.

The Rays-Red Sox series will spark up a feud that has been around throughout the year as the team's butted heads and competed for first place in the American League Eastern Division. It was early June when Coco Crisp charged the mound

after being beamed by Rays' pitcher James Shields, igniting a benches clearing brawl that earned suspensions for eight players for a combined 38 games.

The season series for the Rays and the Red Sox went 10 to eight in the Rays favor. The Rays won all but one of their home games but went 2-7 at Fenway Park. Home-field advantage will play a big role in this series for both teams and it's possible the series goes to seven games because of it.

The first four games of the series are extremely important. At the end of the first four games, who ever has a road win, I say wins the series. If the teams are tied, hold on to your hats because it's going to be a heck of a series.

The series is sure to ignite old flames once again and should be very exciting. With the emergence of Jon Lester as the new Josh Beckett of the postseason, the Red Sox look strong.

I can honestly say I do not know who will win this series, but just for kicks, I say the Rays take it in six if only because they are the underdogs.

Though it would be immensely cool to see "Manny Being Manny" in Fenway NOT wearing Red Sox jersey, this World Series is going to be a showdown between Tampa and Philadelphia.

I wonder how many people stopped being Rays fans this year after all the losing seasons only to come up one year short of the World Series.

It's not their fault of course, it's just as easy to switch to the Florida Marlins and say you were a fan all along.

This could finally be the year the city of Philadelphia ends its championship drought. The city hasn't had a championship season since 1983. And no, I'm not counting the Philadelphia Soul

**The Phillies and Dodgers will face off tonight in game one at 8 p.m. on FOX. The Rays and Red Sox will do battle on Friday at 8 p.m. on TBS**



Courtesy www.johnfinger.com

Phillies first baseman Ryan Howard led the majors in home runs and runs batted in with 48 and 146 respectively. His bat will need to come alive against L.A.

winning the Arena Football League championship this past summer, and neither will Philadelphia fans, unless they don't win the World Series.

Unfortunately, I don't think they will.

Against the Rays, in Tampa, you do not win. These guys just don't lose at home. They have fought through adversity all year long. No one thought that they would be able to hold off the stampeding Red Sox all year, but they did.

When Evan Longoria and Carl Crawford both went down for a month in August, a critical time, they were able to hold on to first place the whole month. Now they have both back healthy.

In his first two postseason at-bats, Longoria

went deep twice. B.J. Upton hit two bombs in the series-clinging game against the White Sox and Carl Crawford has been with the team longer than anyone else, so you know there is nothing that will keep him off of the roster.

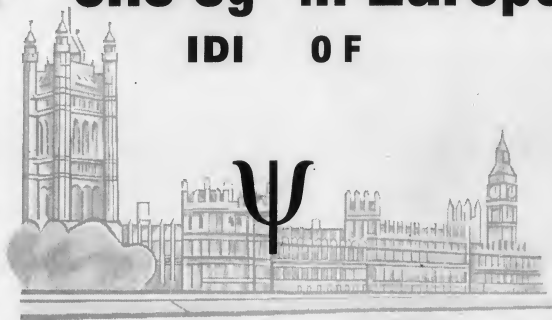
To be honest, it's just too good of a story to not believe in. The Rays, their first ever postseason appearance will win the World Series, beating the Phillies in either five or six games.

Whether it be the Phillies or Rays that win the whole shibang, to me, it doesn't matter.

As long as the Rockies aren't in the postseason, this year is sure to be much more exciting than last.

## Psychology in Europe

IDI OF



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654-1558 or dnissim@umw.edu**



Courtesy Clint Olsen

## Upcoming Events

**Friday:**

**Field Hockey vs. Wesley  
The Battlegrounds at 4:30**

**Sunday:**

**Soccer (W) vs. The College of New Jersey  
The Battlegrounds at 1:00**

**Field Hockey vs. Virginia Wesleyan  
The Battlegrounds at 2:00**

**Thursday, October 16 (after break)  
Volleyball vs. Virginia Wesleyan  
Goolrick Gymnasium at 7:00**

**For More Listings Check Out  
www.athletics.umw.edu**



# Sports

## Taibl Eyeing Comeback

By SARA RITTLEMEYER  
Guest Writer

On June 15, Mary Washington junior Ryan Taibl chased a ball trickling toward the opposing 18-yard line during a summer league game. The other team's keeper was after the same ball. But when Taibl planted his foot to strike the ball, his lower right shin was slammed by the keeper's left knee.

"I flipped over him," Taibl said. "And I knew something was injured. I hoped it was just a small ankle injury, but I wouldn't be so lucky." Taibl, a business major at UMW, went into shock initially after the injury.

"The gross part was I looked down and saw the bottom of my cleat," Taibl said. Before an ambulance reached the soccer field, trainers checked for further severity. "That's when it started to hurt, a lot," Taibl said.

Taibl's tibia was broken in two places broke and his fibula in one. On June 16, Taibl went into surgery to insert a 10 inch titanium rod, including four pins, two in his knee and two in his ankle.

The surgery was only scheduled to be two hours long. It turned out to be a four and a half hours because doctors were unaware that there was a 5 centimeter long piece of Taibl's tibia that had to be removed.

Now, Taibl must go to the athletic trainer at Mary Washington three times a week where he is rehabbing his ankle and knee. He works on strengthening exercises as well as an intense amount of stretching.

Unable to even begin jogging until Sept. 15, Taibl's season was over before preseason even began. He is red shirting and is forced to watch the team play while he is sidelined with boot and crutches close by.

"It's good to be part of the team because some of my best friends are a part of the team, and I live with all of them," Taibl said. "It sucks not being able to play but it makes me look forward to next year and it pushes me to recover faster."

Last season, Taibl was the Eagles' leading scorer, with 10 goals, two of which were game-winners, and three assists. He was also named the 2007 All-South Region men's soccer team by D3Kicks.com as well as being named to the National Soccer Coaches Association's all-region team.

"Oh no," was men's soccer coach Roy Gordon's first thought when he found out

Taibl was injured.

"Ryan was our leading goal getter last year and a catalyst for much of what we were able to accomplish offensively in 2007," Gordon said. "I worried about how we would replace him."

Gordon decided to meet the new season with a fresh new mindset.

"We started the season without having him on the field so, in many ways, it was like what we go through every year when we have to replace graduating seniors who have had an impact on the team," Gordon said.

Coach Gordon was not the only one who received the bad news this summer and began to worry about the future season.

"Going into the year we needed someone else to step up since we lost our leading goal scorer," said junior goalkeeper Emmett Rutkowski.

The Eagles re-worked their offense to fill the role left behind by Taibl from the previous season. Gordon's new tactics highlight the strengths of other key players on the team.

"Last season, we may have ultimately relied on him so much that if he were stymied by the opponent on a given day, we struggled," Gordon said. "What we are doing now is much more balanced so that when Ryan returns next season, my hope is that he can be even more effective because we will have developed other ways to be successful and teams will not be able to key on him so much."

Taibl's support system, including teammates, family and friends, would be incomplete without the support from his mother, whom he is extremely close to.

"Obviously, I am very upset that Ryan is injured," said Sandy Hoppe, Taibl's mother, "but I expect the team to still do well and I am still rooting for the boys."

Taibl has a long road to recovery ahead of him.

"The ultimate test that will show that I can play again is if I can jump up and down on one foot," Taibl said.

Doctors hope to clear him to begin sprinting and making cutting movements by Dec. 15. "I should be able to start playing hard about a month after that," Taibl said. "So by mid-January I should be back on the field, and I can't wait."



Courtesy David Rogers

Taibl (middle) and teammates Stefan Melone (left) and Teddy Barry (right) celebrate during last year's homecoming victory against York College of PA.

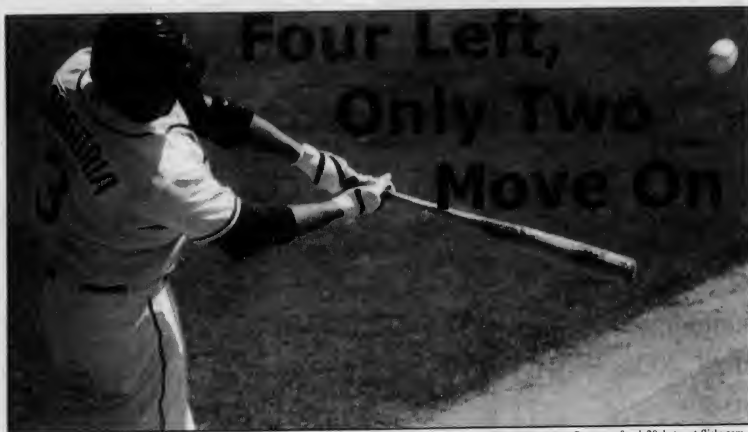
By JOEY MERKEL  
Sports Editor

Sorry, Cubs fans. I know people have been saying "maybe next year" for 100 years (literally) but...maybe next year. For the second year in a row, the Chicago Cubs were swept out of the National League Division Series; this year by Manny Ramirez and the Los Angeles Dodgers. The Dodgers came into Chicago blazing hot and took out the Cubs with pitching and clutch defense, not to mention the long ball.

I wasn't doubtful of the Dodgers hitting, however I was not sure if their starting pitching would be able to keep up with Dempster, Zambrano and Harden. However, Billingsley was stellar in game two and Derek Lowe filled his play-off repertoire even further going a strong six innings. In the end, when the Cubs went to Los Angeles, their offense was anemic and Rich Harden couldn't measure up to Hiroki Kuroda's 6.1 shutout innings. The Dodgers move on.

Without a strong outing by C.C. Sabathia, the Brewers were all but sunk in the Division Series. Sabathia was not able to carry his dominant performance during the regular season into the playoffs not unlike he did last year with Cleveland. The bottom line is that when it came down to pitching, Cole Hamels, Brett Myers and Joe Blanton were all superior, and there is no reason to believe they won't do

◀ BEAST, page 11



Courtesy of code20photog at flickr.com

The Tampa Bay Rays and Evan Longoria have been one of the best stories in sports this year. After finishing dead last in the major leagues the past two years, the Rays are now in the playoffs fighting for a ring.

### Team of the Week



Courtesy www.equine-world.co.uk

The UMW equestrian team finished in first place in every event at the Mount St. Mary's Horse Show this past week. They are the first team in the nation this year to accomplish the feat.

### Athlete of the Week



Courtesy Clint Olsen

Cross country runner Hayley Sullivan won CAC Runner of the Week for the fourth time this season after being the first Division III runner to cross the finish line at the George Mason Invitational this week.